

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-11 and 13-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 9, 11, 17 and 19 are amended, and claims 4 and 12 are cancelled. Claim 1 is amended to include the subject matter of original claims 3 and 4, claim 9 is amended to include the subject matter of original claims 11 and 12, and claims 17 and 19 are amended to include the subject matter of original claims 3 and 4. Support for additional amendments to claims 1, 9, 17 and 19 can be found at least at page 10, lines 2-6. Thus, no new matter is added.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration since the amendments and merely incorporate subject matter from the dependent claims into the independent claims and amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; (c) do not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims; and (d) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the Final Rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies shown to Applicant's representative by Examiner Chau in the March 2 personal interview. Applicant's separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

I. The Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

A. Claims 1-5, 7-12 and 14-20

The Office Action rejects claims 1-5, 7-12 and 14-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application No. US 2003/0217124 A1 to Parry. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Parry does not disclose a printing device that includes a "determination component, which determines whether the access requirement information is predetermined information" and "an information changing component which changes the predetermined information," as recited in claims 1 and 9; or the step of "determining whether the access requirement information is predetermined information" and "changing the predetermined information" as recited in claims 17 and 19.

The Office Action asserts on pages 3 and 4 that Parry teaches these features with regard to original claim 3 (and similarly original claim 11) and original claim 4 (and similarly original claim 12) in paragraph [0024]. Applicant respectfully disagrees. This cited text of Parry merely discloses printing devices that include various types of memory firmware and/or software. Thus, this cited text relates to "setting information," and not "access requirements." Thus, nowhere in this cited text is there any disclosure of changing the predetermined information, which allows access to the setting information when the access requirement information and the predetermined information are the same. See, e.g., pg. 7, lines 15-19 and pg. 9, line 24 - pg. 10, line 18.

Instead, Parry merely discloses a method and system where a user who has authorization to send information to a printing device can send a remote firmware upgrade to the printing device via a print job. See, e.g., Parry, paragraph [0023].

Further, as discussed during the personal interview, Parry does not disclose a printing device that includes an "inputting component including a key pad on the printing device," as

recited in claims 1 and 9; or the step of "manually inputting into a key pad on the printing device access requirements . . .," as recited in claims 17 and 19.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 9, 17 and 19, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are patentable over Parry. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 is respectfully requested.

B. Claim 6

The Office Action rejects claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Parry in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,822,534 to Yamunachari et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Yamunachari is cited in the Office Action only for allegedly disclosing the use of a network manager MIB to notify the operator with information that alters searching variables in the printer. Applicant respectfully submits that Yamunachari fails to remedy the deficiencies of Parry with respect to claim 1.

Claim 6 depends from claim 1. Thus, for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1, as well as for the additional features it recites, claim 6 would not have been rendered obvious by Parry in view of Yamunachari. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 is thus respectfully requested.

C. Claim 13

The Office Action rejects claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Parry in view of JP 07-256948 to Tajima. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Tajima is cited in the Office Action only for allegedly disclosing a printing apparatus including a display unit or a display component for displaying the setting functions of the printing data stored in the buffer means. Applicant respectfully submits that Tajima fails to remedy the deficiencies of Parry with respect to claim 9.

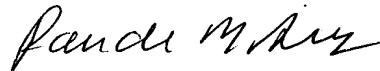
Claim 13 depends from claim 9. Thus, for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 9, as well as for the additional features it recites, claim 13 would not have been rendered obvious by Parry in view of Tajima. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 is thus respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-3, 5-11 and 13-20 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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